

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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State Patrol Ramps-Up for Second Recruitment Blitz

The Washington State Patrol is hosting a third Academy Open House to kick-start the agency's second Recruitment Advertisement Blitz in order to meet the trooper cadet hiring needs of the agency.

Event Information

Date: May 1, 2008

Time: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Location: Washington State Patrol Academy
631 West Dayton Airport Road
Shelton, WA 98584

Why: The challenge of attracting quality candidates to a law enforcement career is an issue shared among agencies across the nation. The Washington State Patrol (WSP) continues to develop new creative and innovative outreach initiatives to combat the challenges of identifying and recruiting ideal candidates.

The first Recruitment Advertisement Blitz launched by the WSP during August '06 and July '07 proved to be very effective. The initiatives implemented during the 11-month stretch, played a significant role by increasing the influx of trooper cadet applications by 106 percent. However, the current receipt of trooper cadet applications has dropped by 19.5 percent in the 9 months following the recruitment blitz. The WSP hopes to further stimulate interest in the agency by implementing similar initiatives used in our first successful recruitment blitz.

The Washington State Patrol anticipates hiring a minimum of fifty-four trooper cadets every 9 months. The agency is currently seeking candidates to complete a four-phase selection process to fill Arming Classes scheduled for June '08 and March '09.

The agency's goal today is to use the Open House to jump-start a series of recruitment outreach initiatives to attract quality candidates to fill the future trooper cadet classes.

The Open House will consist of touring the training facility; an opportunity to observe some of the latest high-tech tactical law enforcement equipment; demonstrations by the agency Bomb Squad, SWAT, and Canine Unit; and a chance to participate in an open forum to have questions answered and testing needs met.

Information regarding other exciting career opportunities such as forensic scientists, communication officers, and information technology specialists with the Washington State Patrol will also be provided. The public and media are invited to this Open House. Individuals interested in attending this event should **call 1-800- 888-8384 to make reservations as space is limited.**

Year	Applications Received
1995	3072
1996	3057
1997	2295
1998	2337
1999	1861
2000	1453
2001	1448
2002	1528
2003	938
2004	1215
2005	1096
2006	1712
2007	2530

The Patrol currently employs 1,052 commissioned officers across the state. Of the 1,052 commissioned officers, 136 are eligible for retirement over the next 5 years. In order to meet the current hiring needs, our goal is to hire a minimum of fifty-four new officers every nine months. Therefore, the Washington State Patrol will continue to use new and creative initiatives to generate public interest to become apart of Washington's finest.
